

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gregory A. James et al.  
Application No. : 10/693,672  
Filed : October 23, 2003  
For : PREVENTION OF MEMBRANE CONTAMINATION IN  
ELECTROCHEMICAL FUEL CELLS

Examiner : Alix Elizabeth Echelmeyer  
Art Unit : 1745  
Docket No. : 130109.507  
Date : November 8, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

Reconsideration of this application in view of the following comments is respectfully requested.

By Office Action mailed October 11, 2006, the Examiner has entered a three-way Restriction Requirement as set forth on page 2 of the Office Action (*i.e.*, Groups a, b and c). In response to the same, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, the “Group a” claims – that is, claims 1-14 directed to a membrane electrode assembly having a barrier film.

In addition, and for purpose of initial examination only, Applicants make the following elections from the species described by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action:

Location: Claim 4  
Material: Claims 6 and 8: Thermoplastic  
Claims 7 and 9: Polyimide

Of course, Applicants reserve the right to pursue any non-elected subject matter in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Application No. 10/693,672

Response to Restriction Requirement mailed October 11, 2006

In view of the above remarks, consideration of the elected subject matter is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Seed Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

/Karl R. Hermanns/  
Karl R. Hermanns  
Registration No. 33,507

KRH:lhk

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5400  
Seattle, Washington 98104-7092  
Phone: (206) 622-4900  
Fax: (206) 682-6031

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